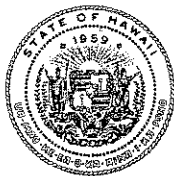


LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR



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CHAIRMAN

WAYNE H. KIMURA
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JANET E. KAWELO
COMMISSIONER

STATE OF HAWAII
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
465 S. KING STREET, #103
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
August 30, 2004

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Daisy M. Murai, Secretary
Kapahulu Neighbors
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Honolulu, Hawaii 96815

Re: Docket No. 03-0417 – Application of Hawaiian Electric Company, Inc. for approval to
commit funds in excess of \$500,000 for Item Y48500, East Oahu Transmission Project

Dear Parties and Participants:

Enclosed for your records is a copy of an e-mail transmission relating to the above-referenced
docket that was sent to the Public Utilities Commission ("Commission") on August 27, 2004.
We are unable to determine whether this message was sent to all parties and participants to this

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Page 2

docket. We remind you to transmit all correspondence (including e-mail messages), briefs, and other documents that are filed with the Commission to all of the other parties and participants of this docket for their records and use.

Please contact me with any questions or concerns that you have relating to this matter. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Catherine P. Awakuni". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Catherine P. Awakuni
Commission Counsel

CPA:eh

Enclosure

Hawaii_PUC/DBF/StateHiUS
08/27/2004 05:30 AM

To Catherine P Awakuni/DBF/StateHiUS@StateHiUS
cc
bcc
Subject Fw: EOTP Talking Points

----- Forwarded by Hawaii_PUC/DBF/StateHiUS on 08/27/2004 05:32 AM -----



"Henry Curtis"
<henry@lifeoftheland.net>
08/26/2004 07:36 PM

To henry@lifeoftheland.net
cc
Subject EOTP Talking Points

please distribute freely - we need to pack the auditorium next wednesday. this is the community's one and only chance to tell the PUC what we think of this shibai! mahalo... aloha `aina, kat

HECO's EAST O`AHU TRANSMISSION PROJECT

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION HEARING

STATE CAPITOL AUDITORIUM

SEPTEMBER 1, 2004 6:00 PM

TALKING POINTS

This proposal is in its fourth decade

This is the 17th name for the project

When asked at last summer's community meetings what the planning and permitting (P & P) costs included, they replied: "*P&P means the planning and permitting costs incurred for this project ...the two EISs, the studies of the 138 kV alternatives, and the costs incurred today are to find reliability.*"

HECO spent \$17 million to ram their Wa`ahila Ridge proposal through communities and

suffered a stunning defeat, now they are trying to embed the cost of their bad business decisions in this new incarnation. Ratepayers shouldn't have to pay for their mistakes, the shareholders must assume responsibility

HECO has been saying that their Environmental Assessment (EA) is 'voluntary' (HECO EA p 1-6), but Chapter 343 clearly states:

§343-5 Applicability and requirements. (a) Except as otherwise provided, an environmental assessment shall be required for actions which:

(1) Propose the use of state or county lands or the use of state or county funds...

(5) Propose any use within the Waikiki area of Oahu, the boundaries of which are delineated in the land use ordinance as amended, establishing the "Waikiki Special District";

The Environmental Assessment must look at the No Build Alternative, something HECO has never been willing to do. The alternatives analysis is missing from their EA, hence it doesn't comply with Chapter 343, which says that the applicant must disclose the environmental effects of a proposed action, effects of a proposed action on the economic and social welfare of the community and State, effects of the economic activities arising out of the proposed action, measures proposed to minimize adverse effects, and **alternatives to the action** and their environmental effects.

HECO wants to limit the discussion to route A, B, or C. That has always been unacceptable to the community. The real issues are first, and foremost, is something needed; and second, if something is needed what would work best.

After the Wa`ahila Ridge debacle, HECO said they 'heard the community.' But this proposal makes it painfully clear that our cries have fallen on deaf ears. A real alternatives study looks at all feasible alternatives, NOT SIMPLY ROUTING.

At last summer's community meetings, there were a plethora of comments asking HECO to explore real alternatives to fossil fuel generation if this project is needed at all. Obviously they refuse to do so.

This project will further tie Hawai'i to imported fossil fuels. HECO's infrastructure is aging, which places us at the perfect point in time to transition to REAL renewable energy in compliance with the Hawai'i State Constitution and all state plans.

At last summer's meetings, the community suggested that HECO's maintenance program needs to be more pro-active. Unfortunately HECO is cutting back on maintenance.

The community asked HECO about live line maintenance and we got the old 'bob and weave' from HECO. In actuality, they have drastically reduced their live line maintenance program.

Why should the ratepayers pay for infrastructure HECO doesn't maintain well? You wouldn't buy a new car because you have a flat, so why should we buy a new project because they don't maintain their existing infrastructure?

HECO is telling people that the cost will be \$1 per month more for 40 years, but their EA (p.ES-4) says that *"Implementation of the City and County of Honolulu's curb-to-curb repaving policy would increase total construction costs of the proposed action by an estimated \$5.3 million, which could translate into a higher rate increase."* So current ratepayers, our keiki and our mo'opuna (grandchildren) will be saddled with a cost that is yet to be determined.

The proposal was explored in HECO's Kamoku-Pukele EIS, but was reported as 'not feasible.'

The people on Fern Street are concerned about chemicals used and highlighted dead grass on an underground route that already exists. They are concerned about kids walking on this path to school.

At the Citizens Advisory Group, hand-picked by HECO, businesses said that if the line is determined to be needed by the PUC, then they would opt for the cheapest option - 70 cents a month more. HECO obviously didn't hear them either!

HECO really wants a 138,000 volt line, but doesn't include that in their EA, isn't that segmenting the project and being less than honest with the community?

At the seven meetings held last summer, there was overwhelming opposition to this proposal, with the only support coming from one HECO retiree and lukewarm support from the business community if the line is determined to be needed.

A questionnaire sent by 3-Point Consulting to the community revealed that 40.6% of the respondents replied that 4-6 hours is the maximum length of time they would be willing to go without power in their homes.

When surveyed about construction impacts, 25.9% were 'very concerned' and 20.3% were 'somewhat concerned.' The streets in the McCully/Mo'ili'ili neighborhoods are very narrow and this project would be more than an inconvenience to those residents.

When asked about the 138 kV Kamoku-Pukele alternative, 40.6% said that it was 'completely unacceptable.'

When asked if they were concerned about EMF levels, 34.4% said they were 'very concerned.'

If EMFs are not a problem, why doesn't HECO have a doctor/epidemiologist on staff to allay the communities fears?

JN Motors is building a new showroom along H-1/Nimitz near the airport. The solar panels on its

roof are more than the total solar panels on all of HECO's MECO's and HELCO's Sun Power for Schools combined, proving that it can be done.

Hickam Air Force Base is going to build homes with aesthetically-pleasing solar shingles. Why can't HECO be as innovative in their work?

The Pukele Service Area had a peak load of 250 MW in 1986 and 192 MW in 2003. HECO said the third line was not needed then but is needed now. Why?

The cost of renewables versus transmission lines looks only at the cost of construction, and not the cost of fuel: sunlight versus oil. The PUC needs to evaluate the whole cost, including construction, maintenance, life expectancy of the infrastructure, etc. to determine the best options for O`ahu.

At the community meetings Kerstan Wong, Project Manager said that the IRP mandated this project, but transmission lines were not part of the IRP at that time!

Now HECO is saying that this project is needed because of the March 2004 outage. That is not true because the problem was a faulty communicator, so this line wouldn't have prevented the outage.

All options to increase reliability/load are on the table, including every transmission line connection ever considered between Pukele and Kamoku/McCully and every existing technology (shielded and unshielded underground, overhead, solar, wind, photovoltaics)

Behind the scenes, there are efforts to limit how companies have to respond to community questions regarding Environmental Assessments and Environmental Impact Statements. Such limitations would help monopolies to ram through unpopular projects at the expense of community health and safety.

HECO likes this project because it increase their profits and allows them to continue doing business as usual.